



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Community Services  
**Department No.:** 057  
**For Agenda Of:** May 5, 2020  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**Vote Required:** 4/5 Vote

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department George Chapjian, Community Services Director (805-568-2467)  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Sarah York Rubin, Office of Arts and Culture Executive Director  
(805-568-3992)  
**SUBJECT:** Acceptance of COVID-19 Relief Funding for County Arts and Culture Nonprofit Organizations

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:**

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

- A. Approve and ratify acceptance of a donation of \$25,000 from the Santa Barbara Foundation to be regranted to arts and culture nonprofit organizations countywide.
- B. Approve the attached Budget Revision Request that accounts for the donation (Requires 4/5 Vote).
- C. Determine that Recommended Actions are not the approval of a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(4) as they are the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment.

**Summary Text:**

The Santa Barbara Foundation, which frequently partners with the County of Santa Barbara to provide and administer community funding, has offered to donate \$25,000 to the Office of Arts and Culture to be regranted to the many local arts and culture nonprofits experiencing hardship as a result of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). On April 1, 2020, the State of California reported that on average, arts and culture nonprofits lost \$193,642 in the month of March 2020. The top stated needs of these organizations are staffing costs and basic operating costs.

On April 15, 2020, the County Arts Commission voted unanimously to recommend that the Board of Supervisors accept the Santa Barbara Foundation's gift and combine it with designated Arts Making Impact grant program funds to support the community. This additional funding would come from the \$50,000 arts subsidy check provided to the County by the Santa Barbara Bowl as part of the annual lease agreement for 2019. Furthermore, Office of Arts and Culture staff and the Arts Commission are working to release this grant funding in the upcoming months to help support the arts and culture sector while it is most in need.

The stipulations to this donation are that it be earmarked for grant funding to arts and culture nonprofit organizations in the county to be administered by the Office of Arts and Culture. The Arts Commission is the decision-making and voting body for all County arts grant allocations and will continue to serve in this capacity for this grant. One Commissioner from each Supervisorial District will serve on the grant panel, along with a representative from the Santa Barbara Foundation and the Santa Barbara Bowl. The final decisions will be subject to the vote and approval of the full Arts Commission.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Upon Receipt of Budget Revision Request BJE0006863

**Fiscal Analysis:**

There is no impact on the County's General Fund Contribution to the Office of Arts and Culture as a result of acceptance of this donation.

**Performance Outcomes: Supporting the economic infrastructure of county nonprofit organizations.**

**Key Contract Risks:** N/A

**Special Instructions:**

Please send an electronic copy of the Minute Order to Sarah York Rubin at [sarah@sbac.ca.gov](mailto:sarah@sbac.ca.gov).

**Attachments:**

- a.) Budget Revision Request

**Authored by:**

Sarah York Rubin, Office of Arts and Culture (805-568-3992)